

HOWARD E. CAYWOOD, INC., SECTION 19 & 24 LEASES, MIDWAY-SUNSET OIL FIELD, Kern County

Howard E. Caywood, Inc. discharges nonhazardous oil field production wastewater to unlined sumps at the Section 19 & Section 24 Leases in the Midway-Sunset Oil Field. Wastewater discharged at the leases is not regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs). To achieve compliance with current Regional Board policy and State regulations, WDRs are being issued and will incorporate a monitoring and reporting program. Geographically, Midway-Sunset Oil Field exists within Midway Valley, which is on the west side of the Tulare Lake Basin. A detailed hydrogeologic study conducted for the Midway Valley Area concluded that first encountered groundwater, found in the oil producing Tulare Formation, is of poor quality and is geologically isolated from usable groundwater in the San Joaquin Valley to the east. The Tulare Formation is exempted by USEPA for injection of oil field produced wastewater. The Order finds the discharge is exempt from the requirements of Title 27. (RKW)